

**Amendments to the Claims:**

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended): The immunogenic composition of claim 13, wherein the ~~Dam~~ activity is altered dam gene is non-revertably inactivated by a second heterologous nucleotide sequence.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 2, wherein the first heterologous sequence is operatively inserted into a first plasmid and further wherein the second heterologous sequence is operatively inserted into a second plasmid.
- 5-6. (Canceled)
7. (Previously presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 13, wherein the live attenuated bacteria is altered relative to its wild-type form by a genetically engineered change in its DNA which change is a non-lethal, non-reverting mutation which renders the bacteria attenuated.
- 8-12. (Canceled)
13. (Currently amended): An immunogenic composition, comprising:  
a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient; and  
an attenuated form of live bacteria with a DNA adenine methylase (Dam) activity altered relative to the Dam activity of the wild-type, unaltered, pathogenic form of the live

bacteria, with the alteration being in a manner which renders the live bacteria attenuated, wherein the Dam activity is altered by a mutation in the Dam gene; and

a first heterologous nucleotide sequence operatively inserted in the live attenuated bacteria which first heterologous sequence expresses a heterologous immunoprotective antigen, wherein the heterologous antigen is selected from the group consisting of: an antigen of *Vibrio cholera*, an antigen of a microorganism which causes a respiratory infection, an antigen of a microorganism which causes a sexually transmitted disease, an hepatitis B surface antigen, an antigen of a pathogenic virus, an antigen of a pathogenic bacteria, and an antigen of a microorganism which causes an enteric infection.

14-19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 13, wherein the microorganism which causes a sexually transmitted disease is HIV.

21-31. (Canceled)